AMENDMENT FILED WITH A REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)

Serial Number: 09/441,388

Filing Date: November 16, 1999

Title: NETWORK-BASED SALES SYSTEM WITH CUSTOMIZABLE USER INTERFACE

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IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

1.-26. (Cancelled)

27. (Currently Amended) A sales system for coupling to a communications network, comprising:

a first sales interface at a first network address, the first sales interface including a first set of user interface elements;

a second sales interface at a second network address, the second sales interface including a second set of user interface elements; [[and]]

a sales server at a third network address that operates the first and second sales interfaces while providing an impression that they are being operated by different entities, wherein the sales server includes a customization interface responsive to user input to define the first and second sets of user interface elements, wherein the sales server is operative to create the impression that the sales interfaces are being operated by different domains by operating with the address of the first sales interface mapped to a first domain and the address of the second sales interface mapped to a second domain different from the first domain, and wherein the first sales interface includes links to a first set of pages not operated by the sales server but being mapped to the first domain, and wherein the second sales interface includes links to a second set of pages not operated by the sales server but being mapped to the sales server but being mapped to the second domain[[.]];

a first member server at a fourth network address to operate the first set of pages; and a second member server at a fifth network address to operate the second set of pages.

- 28. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 27 wherein the addresses of the first and second sales interfaces are mapped using DNS mapping.
- 29. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 27 wherein the first and second sales interfaces presented are each operative to present a plurality of linked pages.

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30. (Cancelled)

31. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 27 wherein the first sales interface includes

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elements that are also included in the first set of pages and wherein the second sales interface

includes elements that are also included in the second set of pages.

32. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 27 wherein the first sales interface includes a

header that is also included in the first set of pages and wherein the second sales interface

includes a header that is also included in the second set of pages.

33. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 27 wherein the first sales interface presented

includes interface elements that include at least part of a name of the first domain, and wherein

the second sales interface presented includes interface elements that include at least part of a

name of the second domain.

34. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 27 wherein the first and second domains

belong to different legal entities.

35. (Currently Amended) A sales system for coupling to a communications network,

comprising:

a first sales interface at a first network address, the first sales interface including a first

set of user interface elements;

a second sales interface at a second network address, the second sales interface including

a second set of user interface elements; [[and]]

a sales server at a third network address that operates the first and second sales interfaces

while providing an impression that they are being operated by different entities, wherein the

sales server includes a customization interface responsive to user input to define the first and

second sets of user interface elements, wherein the customization interface is operative to

provide different headers for the first sales interface and for the second sales interface, and

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wherein the first sales interface includes links to a first set of pages not operated by the sales server but being mapped to the first domain, and wherein the second sales interface includes links to a second set of pages not operated by the sales server but being mapped to the second domain[[.]];

a first member server at a fourth network address to operate the first set of pages; and a second member server at a fifth network address to operate the second set of pages.

36-37. (Cancelled)

38. (Currently Amended) A sales method for operation through a communications network, comprising:

receiving customization commands from a first accountholder;
receiving customization commands from a second accountholder;
presenting a first networked sales interface through the network for the first accountholder based on input received from the first accountholder;

presenting a second networked sales interface through the network for the second accountholder based on input received from the second accountholder, [[and]]

wherein the steps of presenting are performed by a provider for the accountholders, and present the first and second networked sales interfaces in such a way that they provide an impression that they are operated by the accountholders, and wherein the steps of presenting present the first networked sales interface at a first domain and present the second networked sales interface at a second domain, and wherein the steps of presenting present the first networked sales interface as including links to a first set of pages not operated by the sales server but being mapped to the first domain, and present the second networked sales interface as including links to a second set of pages not operated by the sales server but being mapped to the second domain[[.]];

operating the first set of pages by a first member server; and operating the second set of pages by a second member server.

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39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 38 wherein addresses of the first and second

networked sales interfaces are mapped using DNS mapping.

40. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 38 wherein the steps of presenting are

operative to present each of the first and second networked sales interfaces as including a

plurality of linked pages.

41. (Cancelled).

42. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 38 wherein the steps of presenting present

elements in the first networked sales interface that are also included in the first set of pages and

present elements in the second networked sales interface that are also included in the second set

of pages.

43. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 38 wherein the steps of presenting present a

header in the first networked sales interface that is also included in the first set of pages and

present a header in the second networked sales interface that is also included in the second set of

pages.

44. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 38 wherein the steps of presenting present

the first networked sales interface as including interface elements that include at least part of a

name of the first domain, and present the second networked sales interface as including interface

elements that include at least part of a name of the second domain.

45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 38 wherein the first and second domains

belong to different legal entities.

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(Currently Amended) A sales method for operation through a communications network, 46. comprising:

receiving customization commands from a first accountholder; receiving customization commands from a second accountholder; presenting a first networked sales interface through the network for the first accountholder based on input received from the first accountholder;

presenting a second networked sales interface through the network for the second accountholder based on input received from the second accountholder, [[and]]

wherein the steps of presenting are performed by a provider for the accountholders, and present the first and second networked sales interfaces in such a way that they provide an impression that they are operated by the accountholders, and wherein the steps of presenting present the different headers for the first networked sales interface and for the second networked sales interface, and wherein the steps of presenting present the first networked sales interface as including links to a first set of pages not operated by the sales server but being mapped to the first domain, and present the second networked sales interface as including links to a second set of pages not operated by the sales server but being mapped to the second domain[[.]];

operating the first set of pages by a first member server; and operating the second set of pages by a second member server.

47.-48. (Cancelled)

- (New) The system of claim 27, wherein the first member server and the second member 49. server are operated by different legal entities.
- (New) The system of claim 27, wherein the first domain includes a domain name for the 50. first member server that includes a subdomain name for the sales server that includes a subdomain name for the first user interface, and wherein the second domain includes a domain name for the second member server that includes a subdomain name for the sales server that includes a subdomain name for the second user interface.

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51. (New) The system of claim 27, wherein a user may access the auction server with a first registration process used to access the first member server and wherein the user may access the

auction server with a second registration process used to access the second member server.

52. (New) The system of claim 27, wherein a user may access the auction server without first

accessing the first member server, and wherein the user may access the auction server without

first accessing the second member server.

53. (New) The system of claim 27, wherein the sales system is an auction system, and

wherein the sales server is an auction server, and wherein the first set of pages are used to access

the first sales interface.

54. (New) The system of claim 53, wherein the first sales interface is used to receive a bid

from a user.

55. (New) The system of claim 53, wherein the auction server is to generate the first sales

interface.

56. (New) The system of claim 53, wherein the auction server is to generate the first sales

interface to resemble the first set of pages.